

Court Information Release



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION
219 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60604

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SENIOR U.S. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE GEORGE W. LINDBERG ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

CHICAGO – Senior U.S. District Court Judge George W. Lindberg announced his retirement effective December 31, 2012. Judge Lindberg was appointed to the federal bench by President George H. W. Bush and took the oath of office November 9, 1989. He had previously served 11 years as a justice of the Illinois Appellate Court, Second District, having been elected in 1978 and retained in 1988.

Judge Lindberg was elected Illinois's first State Comptroller in 1972. Thereafter, he served as Illinois Deputy Attorney General in 1977 and 1978, before being elected to the Illinois Appellate Court.

In 1966, Judge Lindberg was elected to the first of three consecutive terms in the Illinois House of Representatives, where he chaired the Judiciary Committee on criminal law. He also chaired the Illinois House Committee to Investigate the Judiciary, during which time two justices of the Illinois Supreme Court resigned.

While serving in the House, Judge Lindberg was chief sponsor of the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act, requiring Illinois public officials and candidates for office to disclose their economic interests annually. Authorization for the Act was one of four reforms he recommended to the Illinois Constitutional Convention in 1969. Those reforms became part of the Illinois Constitution of 1970.

Judge Lindberg graduated from Northwestern University in 1954 and from its law school in 1957. While attending law school, he studied the polygraph technique with John E. Reid and Northwestern Professor of Law Fred E. Inbau, the leading authorities on the polygraph technique and criminal interrogation. Upon graduation, he continued with John E. Reid's investigation firm, conducting several thousand polygraph examinations before resigning in 1968 to enter the private practice of law and to continue his legislative and public service career.